



# Town of Wenham

Selectmen / Town Administrator

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Board of Selectmen  
**FROM:** Peter Lombardi, Town Administrator  
**RE:** Town Administrator's Report  
**DATE:** September 11, 2018

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### **Personnel**

With Karen Moulton leaving the Finance Office at the end of this month, we posted the Finance Assistant & Payroll Coordinator the last week of August and expect to interview candidates by the last week of September. The position is budgeted at 30 hours/week and has a pay range of \$21.01 to \$26.26/hour. The goal is to fill this position as soon as possible in October.

The Police Department posted two full-time Officer positions at the end of July and we plan to conduct interviews with the six internal candidates who applied in the last week of September. We expect to have recommendations to the Board to fill these vacancies by the beginning of October to make sure we facilitate as timely a transition as possible.

### **Street Tree Removals & Plantings**

As discussed at our last meeting, the Tree Warden held public hearings on August 23 and September 6 regarding over 50 proposed tree removals across Town. With the exception of the birch tree on Town Hall lawn, all other removals are expected to be completed in the coming weeks. The Tree Warden has also provided a list of locations where he plans to work with the DPW to plant \$10k in new street trees this fall and next spring, including several replacements for trees that are now scheduled for removal.

### **Paving Work**

The DPW has scheduled paving overlay projects of Pleasant Street and Meridian Road as part of our annual road repair program. Grinding is set to take place on Friday September 21 and repaving with then occur the following week, weather permitting. Both roads were identified as top priorities to address by a Town-wide pavement inspection that was completed this past spring. Now that the timeline for this work has been finalized, residents of both roads will be mailed notices to this effect this week. We are using \$126k in Chapter 90 funds for this work, leaving a balance of \$76k for next year. We receive just over \$150k/year in funding from the state through this program.

The access road and parking lot behind the brick building at the Iron Rail property will also be paved the last week of September. A reminder that, earlier this year, Town Meeting approved issuance of up to \$245k in debt to fund paving and roof work at the Iron Rail. Debt payments for these projects will be made from the Iron Rail Rental Revolving Fund approved by Town Meeting last year.

### **Positive West Nile Vims Mosquito Tests**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health recently announced that West Nile Virus (WNV) has been detected in mosquitoes collected from a site at the Iron Rail property in Wenham. We have had 2 positive tests there over the past 2 weeks. With over 500 positive WNV results to date statewide, all of Massachusetts is now considered a moderate risk level. The Board of Health is meeting tomorrow morning with representatives from Northeast Mosquito Control and Wetlands Management District to determine next steps, potentially including increased outreach efforts to educate residents and/ or targeted spraying. The Hamilton-Wenham School District's Administration has been notified of these developments and is working with the Town as well.

### **Enon One Ceremony**

Our historic hand pumper is now scheduled to be delivered on the weekend of September 22. To commemorate its return to Town after being housed by the American Hand Fire Society in Newbury since site work began on our new Police Station, a formal ribbon cutting ceremony is set to take place at its new home behind Town Hall on Saturday October 13 - more details to follow.